CLAIMS

1. A method for interpreting time stamp information from a digital camera, the method comprising:

receiving image information from a digital camera in a first format with corresponding time stamp information;

converting the image information and time stamp information to bitmap information; and,

supplying the images with corresponding time stamps for printing.

2. The method of claim 1 further comprising:

displaying the images with corresponding time stamps for editing; and,

wherein supplying the images with corresponding time stamps for printing includes supplying edited images with corresponding time stamps.

3. The method of claim 2 further comprising:

opening a first format interpreter;

wherein receiving image information from a digital camera in a first format includes using the first format interpreter to accept the image information and corresponding time stamp; and,

wherein converting the image information and time stamp to bitmap information includes using the first format interpreter to convert the image information and corresponding time stamp into bitmap information.

4. The method of claim 3 further comprising:

selecting the "print time stamp" option; and,

wherein converting the image information and time stamp to bitmap information includes converting the time stamp into bitmap information in response to selecting the "print time stamp" option.

5. The method of claim 4 wherein receiving image information from a digital camera in a first format includes receiving information in a first format selected from the group including joint photographic experts group (JPEG) and tagged image file format (TIFF) formats.

6. The method of claim 4 further comprising:

selecting a time stamp layout for a corresponding image; and,

wherein supplying the images with corresponding time stamps for printing including supplying the image with the selected time stamp layout.

7. The method of claim 6 wherein selecting the time stamp layout for the corresponding image includes selecting from the group including the location of the time stamp on the image, the time stamp font style, the time stamp font size, and the time format.

8. The method of claim 6 further comprising:

selecting miscellaneous superposition overlays for corresponding images; and,

wherein supplying the images with corresponding time stamps for printing including supplying images with the selected superposition overlays.

9. The method of claim 8 wherein selecting miscellaneous superposition overlays for corresponding images includes selecting superposition overlays from the group including text messages, backgrounds, clipart, and image borders.

10. A method for interpreting time stamp information from a digital camera, the method comprising:

opening a first format interpreter;

receiving image information from a digital camera in a first format selected from the group including joint photographic experts group (JPEG) and tagged image file format (TIFF) formats, with a corresponding time stamp information;

displaying the images with corresponding time stamps for editing;

selecting the "print time stamp" option;

selecting a time stamp layout for a corresponding image;

converting the image information and time stamp information to bitmap information; and,

supplying the edited images with corresponding time stamps for printing.

11. A system for interpreting time stamp information from a digital camera, the system comprising:

a controller having a port to receive image information from a digital camera in a first format with a corresponding time stamp and a port to supply images with corresponding time stamps, converted into bitmap information;

a user interface having a port connected for communication with the controller; and,

a printer engine having a port connected to the controller for accepting the images with corresponding time stamps for printing.

12. The system of claim 11 wherein a user interface accepts time stamp print user prompts and supplies instructions to the controller for printing a time stamp; and,

wherein the controller supplies time stamp information, with its corresponding image, as bitmap information in response time stamp print commands from the user interface.

13. The system of claim 12 wherein the user interface receives images for display, receives image modification user prompts, and supplies commands to the controller for modifying the images with corresponding time stamps; and,

wherein the controller modifies the bitmap image data in response to commands from the user interface.

14. The system of claim 13 wherein the controller receives image information from the digital camera in a first format selected from the group including joint photographic experts group (JPEG) and tagged image file format (TIFF) formats.

15. The system of claim 13 wherein the user interface accepts user prompts for selecting a time stamp layout on a corresponding image, and supplies the time stamp layout commands to the controller; and,

wherein the controller accepts the time stamp layout information and provides images with corresponding time stamp layouts for printing in response to the time stamp layout commands.

16. The system of claim 15 wherein the user interface accepts prompts for selecting the time stamp layouts selected from the group including the location of the time stamp on the image, the time stamp font style, the time stamp font size, and the time format.

17. The system of claim 15 wherein the user interface accepts prompts for selecting miscellaneous superposition overlays for corresponding images; and,

wherein the controller supplies images for printing with the corresponding superposition overlays in response to the miscellaneous superposition overlay prompts.

18. The system of claim 17 wherein the user interface accepts prompts for miscellaneous superposition overlays selected from the group including text messages, backgrounds, clipart, and image borders.